

FARM NOTES.

In cattle feeding cow-pea and alfalfa hay make a good substitute for wheat bran. A horse weighing 1600 pounds is about right for farm work. It is not advisable to have him heavier. Let the horse eat all the dirt he wants. It is good for him. Occasionally throw a chunk of turf into the feed box. For injuries to the teats or udder of the cow an ointment made from a mixture of fresh butter and tar is excellent. The average length of a hen's egg is 2.27 inches; diameter at the broad end, 1.72 inches; weight, about one-eighth of a pound. The era of big hogs seems to be passing away. Hogs weighing from 125 to 200 pounds—the smooth small-boned kind—bring the best money. For humble-foot in poultry paint the corn liberally with tincture of iodine daily for a week. If this is done in the early stages the corn can be spread. One hundred pounds of wheat bran contains 12.2 pounds of digestible protein, 39.2 pounds digestible carbohydrates and 2.7 pounds either extract or fat. Plant standard apple trees 40 feet each way, with peach or pear trees as fillers between them. When the filler trees are well grown they will have plenty of room without crowding the standard ones. Sal soda is excellent for removing fat and grease from milk pails, cans and separators, but soap is best for dirt alone. Sal soda is neither poisonous nor corrosive. Use with water in small proportions. Profit lies not so much in big crops as in good ones. A 50 acre farm properly tilled and cared for will yield quality that is worth more money than will a farm twice the size, with a crop of an inferior sort. Angora goats generally live twice as long as sheep. A healthy goat will eat about 750 pounds of hay in one winter, but will manage to get along on a reasonably good brush pasture in summer without anything else. A mule's hoof, being smaller and tougher than that of the average horse, does not need shoeing unless on hard roads a great deal. Better not shoe if confined to work on the farm, unless used to haul on frozen ground. Sheep manure is the best manure and will improve the land faster than any other kind of manure made on the farm, with the possible exception of that made by fowls, which is quite frequently termed "American guano."

When manure becomes heated and the odor of ammonia is noticed there is then a loss of valuable fertilizing substance—nitrogen. If the heat is very high force a crowbar down in the heap in several places and pour cold water in to reduce the temperature. Professor Rommel, of the National Bureau of Animal Industry, says his investigations show that the sows of the Poland-China breed have increased in fecundity during the past 20 years. A 10-year experiment shows that while the Poland-China litters average 7.52, the Duroc-Jerseys average 9.26. An iron weight with a strap attached to it should always be carried in the farm wagon. The moment the horse is stopped and the driver is to leave the team, the weight should be dropped on the ground and the strap fastened to the horse. This will make it safer than to allow the team to stand unbitched. Manure is simply materials that have been softened and decomposed (digested) within the body of an animal. To apply such raw materials as bran and linseed meal directly to the soil would be of no advantage, notwithstanding that they are excellent fertilizers, their value being increased by feeding to stock. Goose feathers are often treated in this manner: After being spread in some clean, dry, airy place they should be turned over with a fork every few days until thoroughly dried. If placed in bags and well steamed they are more valuable, as the steam has a tendency to purify them, removing much of the oily odor they naturally have. As a rule, there is very little moisture in the sheep pen from the animals themselves. Sheepmen say that by heavy bedding, particularly at the beginning of the season, the straw will absorb all the urine from the sheep without there being any softness or rotting of the straw, and the pens are often not cleaned more than once in a season without injury to the stock. All fruit trees should be sprayed while dormant, with lime, sulphur and salt, as a preventive of San Jose scale, to destroy the fungi. It is also claimed that this preparation is a good fertilizer, and will help to keep the trees healthy. Quite a number of insects attack only dead or decaying trees, and these form a breeding place for many other varieties of insect pests. Here is a well-recommended whitewash: For 10 gallons use 25 pounds of common lime slaked with boiling water; 5 pounds of clean wood ashes; 10 pounds of melted beef tallow; 2 pounds of common salt, and one-half pound of glue, dissolved. Add any dry mineral paint to color, such as burnt umber, yellow ochre or mineral red. Mix all while hot and apply while warm, keeping it well stirred. A few years ago there was a great furor made over the newly invented "cramping machine," a device, as one man described it, "for making a chicken eat, whether it wanted to or not." It was discovered that the digestive apparatus of the chicken, however unimpaired, could not stand the cramping process for long. Two weeks was found to be long enough, and for this length of time, the game did not pay for the ammunition. There is no better way than good feeding in the old-fashioned way. Dried brewers' grains rank close to bran in feeding value, containing a little more protein and fat, but not quite so much carbohydrates. It is claimed that in 100 pounds of this feed there are 15.7 pounds of protein, 36.3 pounds of carbohydrates and 5.1 pounds of fat. Malt sprouts and dried brewers' grains are valuable cow feeds, especially the latter. Sprouts are richest in protein, but not much relished by cows and should be fed only in limited quantities. Wet brewers' grains are apt to injure the quality of the milk.

Directing Folks in Boston.

The stranger had been searching nearly half an hour among the mysterious curving ways of the park for Fenway street. At last the trim figure of a hurrying student attracted her eye, and she resolved to ask for the necessary information. "Can you tell me, please, where Fenway street is?" she asked. "Yes, indeed," answered the student. "Why, we're in it now." "Yes?" The stranger looked rather helplessly around at the wealth of shrubbery, the smooth roads that seemed to lead only to Mrs. Gardner's green roofed palace. "But I wanted to find a certain number on Fenway street." "Oh!" said the student, a helpless expression for a moment clouding her face. "Do you know, there's a street down there." She pointed a daintily gloved hand straight into a clump of elms. "I don't know the name of it. I never did know that it had a name. Why don't you try that one?"—Boston Herald.

Pretty Strong Lungs.

In "Through Luzon on Highways and Byways" the author, a naval officer, tells this expansive story. We vouch for the story only, not for the facts: While traversing this attractive country, which offers so much to tempt the husbandman, we met with no sign of life until nearing a village, where could be seen native hunters after deer and carabao. The carabao furnishes a fine quality of meat and has a peculiar, instinctive trait in being the only denizen of the forest that can protect itself against the boa constrictors, which are somewhat numerous in these parts. When the carabao is pounced upon by the boa and the reptile has wrapped itself round the body for the squeezing process of killing the animal, the carabao slowly draws in its sides until the boa has his grip fixed securely and begins to tighten up, when suddenly the carabao inflates his lungs to their fullest and spreads his sides, tearing the vertebrae of the reptile into a thousand pieces.

How Tea Lead is Made.

Tea lead for lining tea chests is superior at least from the standpoint of cheapness to any other metal. According to an article in the Brass Worker, the method practiced by the Chinese in the manufacture of tea lead is to press molten lead between two flat stones. The excess of lead is melted in an iron kettle by a direct fire underneath. Rice paper is carefully smoothed down over the surface of the stones to supply a nonconductor of heat and thus prevent the chilling of the lead. The stones are now placed flat upon the ground and the upper one raised a short distance, with one edge resting upon the lower stone. In other words, the stones are opened like a book. A ladle full of melted lead is now poured in between the stones, and the top one is quickly dropped. The lead is squeezed out until only a thin layer is left. Tea lead usually runs from .005 to .010 inch in thickness.

An Untamed Marquis.

The father of the Marquis of Bute had an amusing experience in the neighborhood of Rothesay. He met a cockney traveler who asked to be directed to a certain place. Deceived by the marquis' accent, the visitor took him for a southern and took occasion to make supercilious remarks about the barbarous islanders of Bute. He said, "Blime me, I suppose you're like me, an Englishman?" "No," responded the marquis; "I'm a native of Bute, this island." "Good gracious!" exclaimed the Londoner, in amazement. "Then who in the dooce tamed yer?" Lord Bute assumed a fierce expression and, raising a ponderous cudgel he was carrying, said angrily, "Who says I'm tame?" The alarmed cockney turned and fled.—Pall Mall Gazette.

Two Cures For the Blues.

"What do you do when you have the blues?" asked the first woman. "I walk up Fifth avenue and look in all the jewelers' windows and at the orchids and high priced hats. What do you do?" "I go way down to Rivington street and look at the wretched poor women with seventeen children struggling in the dirt. That makes me thankful my affairs are no worse."—New York Press.

Its Worth.

The actress, having been arrested for running her automobile seventy miles an hour, was describing the superb car to a reporter. The young man inquired: "How much did you say it was worth?" "At least two columns on the front page," she answered absently.—Kansas City Independent.

Shut Her Off.

First Deaf Mute (making signs)—Did your wife complain because you stayed out till after midnight? Second Deaf Mute (chuckling)—Did she? You should have seen her! But when it began to get monotonous I just turned out the light.

Two Questions.

"Why don't we see men like the novelists describe?" "I give it up. Why don't we see girls like the illustrators draw?"—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Followed the Lead.

Teacher—Where do we obtain coal, Freddie? Freddie—From the coal beds, miss. Teacher—Right! Now, Jimmy, where do we obtain feathers? Jimmy—From feather beds, miss.

May Do It Now.

"In the olden times it is said that it was possible for a man to render himself invisible." "Pshaw! That's not at all remarkable. Men in this country are doing it every day." "You don't say so! How do they manage it?" "By marrying famous women!"

How It Was Becoming.

"That dress is becoming, my dear," said the man who thinks he is a diplomat. She looked at him coldly for a moment and then replied: "Yes. It is becoming threadbare."

Ignorance Not Bias.

"There is a certain gnawing uncertainty about calling on people who speak a different language from their servants," remarked the woman who does. "You can never tell whether they are saying, 'Make another cup of tea, Katie; I have company,' or 'She always drops in about tea time, confound her! Pour some more hot water in the pot.'"—New York Press.

Saw For Himself.

A man carrying a looking glass said to a newsboy, "Come here and look into this glass and you will see a donkey."

"How did you find that out?" retorted the boy.—London Express.

Opposites Often Wed.

"Miss, you are a hothead. Nobody will ever care to marry a hothead girl."

"Don't worry, mother. I'll find some nice, giristerous boy."—Kansas City Journal.

Externally.

The Doctor—You understand, don't you, that this is only to be used externally? The Patient's Wife—Sure, sir, I allus makes him get out 'o' bed to drink it!—London Scraps.

—Helen—Freddy has a cold in his head.

May—I've been wondering. Helen—Wondering what? May—What Freddy had in his head.

—The Poet—How did my sonnet strike you? The Philistine—Strike me? It never touched me!

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